

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An iontophoretic apparatus comprising:

- a housing member;
- a current distribution member associated with the housing member;
- a medicament containment member associated with the current distribution member;
- a handle member associated with the housing member, the handle member including:
 - a lateral straddling member;
 - a medial straddling member; and
 - wherein the cooperation of the straddling members cooperates with the soft tissue of the eye to retain the apparatus in a desired orientation.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the handle member comprises a first handle region and a second handle region extending outwardly from the handle member, the first and second handle regions distally spaced apart a predetermined distance, the lateral straddling member associated with the first handle region and the medial straddling member associated with the second handle region.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second handle regions includes a gripping region, the gripping region facilitating the grasping of the handle region by a user.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the straddling members have a width which is such that the opening and closing of an eye is substantially unobstructed..

5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one of the straddling members includes a width which facilitates retention of an eyelid of a patient in an open position.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one of the medial and lateral straddling members are substantially flexible so as to facilitate the biasing of the straddling members against respective soft tissue.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the lateral straddling member is configured to straddle the region encompassed by the lateral angle.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the medial straddling member is configured to straddle the region encompassed by the medial angle, the lacus lacrimalis and the caruncula lacrimalis.

9. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising means for biasing the straddling members against the soft tissue of an eye.

10. An iontophoretic apparatus comprising:

- a housing member;
- a current distribution member associated with the housing member;

- a medicament containment member associated with the current distribution member;
and

- a handle member associated with the housing member, the handle member including at least one of:

- 5 - a lateral straddling member; and
- a medial straddling member;
- wherein the cooperation of the straddling members cooperates with the soft tissue of the eye to retain the apparatus in a desired orientation.

10 11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the handle member comprises a first handle region and a second handle region extending outwardly from the handle member, the first and second handle regions distally spaced apart a predetermined distance, the lateral straddling member associated with the first handle region and the medial straddling member associated with the second handle region.

15 12. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein at least one of the first and second handle regions includes a gripping region, the gripping region facilitating the grasping of the handle region by a user.

20 13. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the straddling members have a width which is such that the opening and closing of an eye is substantially unobstructed..

14. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein at least one of the straddling members includes a width which facilitates retention of an eyelid of a patient in an open position.

15. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein at least one of the medial and lateral straddling members are substantially flexible so as to facilitate the biasing of the straddling members against respective soft tissue.

16. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the lateral straddling member is configured to straddle the region encompassed by the lateral angle.

17. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the medial straddling member is configured to straddle the region encompassed by the medial angle, the lacus lacrimalis and the caruncula lacrimalis.

18. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising means for biasing the straddling members against the soft tissue of an eye.

19. An iontophoretic apparatus comprising:

- a housing member;
- a current distribution member associated with the housing member;
- a medicament containment member associated with the current distribution member;

and

- at least one of a lateral straddling member and a medial straddling member.

20. The iontophoretic apparatus of claim 18 further comprising both of the lateral straddling member and the medial straddling member, wherein the cooperation of the straddling members cooperates with the soft tissue of the eye to retain the apparatus in a desired orientation.

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21. An ocular apparatus comprising:

- a housing member;
- a medicament containment member associated with the housing;
- at least one of

- a lateral straddling member; and

- a medial straddling member;

- wherein the at least one straddling member cooperates with the soft tissue of the eye to retain the apparatus in a desired orientation.

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22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein further comprising a handle member, the handle member comprises a first handle region and a second handle region extending outwardly from the handle member, the first and second handle regions distally spaced apart a predetermined distance, the lateral straddling member associated with the first handle region and the medial straddling member associated with the second handle region.

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23. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein at least one of the first and second handle regions includes a gripping region, the gripping region facilitating the grasping of the handle region by a user.

24. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the straddling members have a width which is such that the opening and closing of an eye is substantially unobstructed..

5 25. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein at least one of the straddling members includes a width which facilitates retention of an eyelid of a patient in an open position.

10 26. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein at least one of the medial and lateral straddling members are substantially flexible so as to facilitate the biasing of the straddling members against respective soft tissue.

15 27. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the lateral straddling member is configured to straddle the region encompassed by the lateral angle.

20 28. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the medial straddling member is configured to straddle the region encompassed by the medial angle, the lacus lacrimalis and the caruncula lacrimalis.

25 29. The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising means for biasing the straddling members against the soft tissue of an eye.